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Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

January 6, 2015

To:

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

Sachi A. Hamaj

Interim Chief Executive Officer

#### UPDATE ON FILMING RENTAL RATES AT GRAND PARK

Attached is the filming inquiry log from June 2013 to December 2014 prepared by Grand Park staff to accurately account for all filming inquiries at Grand Park (Park).

In April 2013, the Board adopted the revised filming and event rental rates for Grand Park. The Board approved filming rental rates ranging from \$1,920 to \$5,720 depending on the location within the Park, with a maximum cost of \$12,000 for the use of the entire Park, during off peak hours. Photography rental rates range from \$800 to \$4,000, depending on commercial or non-commercial use.

Between June 2013 and December 2014, the Park received 82 formal inquiries, with 29 successful completed filming events as detailed in the Attachment. All revenue collected from filming rentals at the Park is to be deposited to the Grand Park Operating Budget to be allocated for programming.

As the Park moves into its third year of operation and increasingly becomes a popular destination in Los Angeles County, Park staff continue to balance filming activity and free programming at the Park. We recommend no change to the current Board approved filming rates. We will continue to monitor the filming activity, and will report back to the Board with any future recommended revisions to the rates and guidelines.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Christine Frias at (213) 974-1089.

SAH:SHK:BMB FC:CF:rp

#### Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

County Counsel Grand Park

Performing Arts Center of Los Angeles County

U:\FAMD Under Operations Cluster Files 08-19-13\FAMD-BOARD LETTER 2014 (WORD)\Memo\_UpdatetoGrandParkFilmingRates\_01062015.docx

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

GRAND PARK FILM INQUIRY LOG 1ST AND 2ND QUARTERS (JULY - DECEMBER 2014) FY 2014-15

DATE	PROD. DATE/TIME	ENTITY	BUDGET	TYPE OF PRODUCTION	LOCATION	CREW/TALENT	STATUS	OUTCOME
11-Dec-14	12/11-12/15	Moot Point Secret Inc.	mid	Motion Picture Shoot "The Secret In Their Eyes"	B1	110	Approved	Pending
1-Dec-14	12/6/2014	N/A	Low	Dog Arthritis Medication Commercial Featuring Cesar Milan, "Dog Whisperer"	B2	15	Discussion	Did Not Commence
20-Nov-14	12/5/2014	N/A	Low	Small Fashion Film Shoot	N/A	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
19-Nov-14	Sometime 12/3-5/14	N/A	Low	Small Commercial Shoot	B4	30	Discussion	Did Not Commence
10-Nov-14	12/1/2014	Hold Fast Productions	Low	Filming episode for Amazon show BOSCH	B4	70	Approved	Complete
6-Nov-14	11/20/2014	Cristian Quintero	Low	"AAR Vide" Film Shoot	B3	15	Approved	Complete
4-Nov-14	11/23/2014	TK Digital Corporation	Low	Commercial Spot for Japanese TV show, Battle of the Big Eaters	B3	35	Approved	Complete
29-Oct-14	11/3/2014	Colourmovie	Low	B-roll for Bravo Reality Show, around fountain	B1	5	Approved	Did Not Commence
28-Oct-14	1 day within 12/1-12/6/2014	Glam PR	Low	still photo shoot around fountain	18	25	Approved	Pending
20-0ct-14	Either 10/29 or 10/30	D&R Productions	Micro	Filming a video/photo commercial called "Thousands"	B3	20	Approved	Did Not Commence
17-Oct-14	11/15/2014	N/A	Low	Commercial shoot focusing on fountain	18	25	Approved	Did Not Commence
3-Oct-14	10/27/2014	Hold Fast Productions	Low	Filming episode for Amazon show BOSCH	B3	09	Approved	Complete
19-Sep-14	11/20/2014	AFI Graduate Student	Low	Student film shooting towards City Hall; 1st day is only staging and production camp; 2nd day actual filming	B4	50	Approved	Complete
18-Sep-14	Week of 9/22	MMS Trading	Micro	Still photo shoot for a handbag company	N/A	10	Approved	Did Not Commence
18-Sep-14	2 day shoot: 9/30-10/1/14	CBS Television Studios	Mid	Filming an episode of TV show NCIS: LOS ANGELES	B1, B2	130	Approved	Complete
17-Sep-14	9/21/14	Milagro Films	Low	Sprint Commercial	B3	09	Approved	Complete
15-Sep-14	9/27 or 9/28/14	N/A	Low	Filming at the fountain, project N/A	81	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
25-Aug-14	9/16/14	Soul Pancake	Low	Kitten Therapy video for client Purina	B2	40	Approved	Complete
21-Aug-14	4 days within 8/28-31/14	N/A	Low	A shoot featuring skateboards at the park	B1	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
18-Aug-14	Per park schedule	OTL (Fountain Vendor)	Low	Fountain shoot during day and night time, for company portfolio	B1	4	Approved	Pending
15-Aug-14	9/20/14	Pie Town Productions	Low	Segment for "I Could Live There" Travel Channel Show	B1	10	Approved	Did Not Commence

## GRAND PARK FILM INQUIRY LOG FY 2013-2014

				FY 2013-2014				
DATE RECEIVED	PROD. DATE/TIME	ENTITY	BUDGET	TYPE OF PRODUCTION	LOCATION	CREW/TALEN T	STATUS	OUTCOME
25-Jun-14	7/2/14	Student - NY Film Academy	Micro	Dramatic scene for thesis film WARMING	B3	10	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
19-Jun-14	6/26/14	O'Malley Productions	Low	Filming episode of TV show FOOD PARADISE for Travel Channel	Olive Court	10	Approved	Complete
16-Jun-14	6/24/14	Soul Pancake	Low	Filming on Broadway, using Grand Park for backstage/camp	B4	15	Approved	Complete
27-May-14	5/29/14	Soul Pancake	Low	Man on the Street interviews about Life's Big Questions	N/A	15	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
12-May-14	5/23/14	Soul Pancake	Low	Impromptu Dance Party with tent, red carpet, inviting public to join and dance	B3	15	Approved	Complete
23-Apr-14	5/1/14	Smugger	Low	AT&T Airwaves Commercial	B1	N/A	Approved	Did Not Commence
11-Apr-14	5/9/14	All In Productions	Low	Reshoots: Filming of episode of TV Show THE HELP DESK WITH DEEPAK CHOPRA for the Oprah Winfrey Network	B3	10	Approved	Complete
31-Mar-14	4/14/14	Soul Pancake	Low	Kid President film shoot with "Weird Al" Yankovich	B4	12	Approved	Complete
27-Mar-14	4/14	Legend Locations	N/A	Still photo shoot	N/A	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
27-Mar-14	2 days within 4/10-14/14	N/A	Low	Hyundai commercial, featuring fake rain	B4	200	Discussion	Did Not Commence
24-Mar-14	4/4/14	N/A	Low	Tennis Shoe Company	B1	15	Discussion	Did Not Commence
20-Mar-14	4/27 or 4/28/14	Lockbox Productions	Low	Photo and Video Shoot	N/A	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
11-Mar-14	3/17/14	Student Film - UCLA	Micro	Student Film featuring Google Glass	B1	13	Approved	Complete
27-Feb-14	3/22/14	Lockbox Productions	Low	Verizon Still Photo Shoot using prop food trucks	B1	40	Approved	Complete
21-Feb-14	3/5/14	Emphatic Entertainment	Micro	music video scene, 2 hour shoot	B1	2	Discussion	Did Not Commence
13-Feb-14	3/22 or 3/23/14	N/A	Low	Filming TV competition THE WORLD'S STRONGEST MAN	Olive Court, B2	100	Discussion	Did Not Commence
13-Feb-14	Btw 3/17 and 3/27/14	Image Locations	Low	Target Photo Shoot	N/A	30	Discussion	Did Not Commence
12-Feb-14	3/8/14	First Shot Productions	Low	Volkswagen Still Photo Shoot	B4	1	Approved	Complete
11-Feb-14	2nd or 3rd week in March	N/A	Micro	Indie Movie, new media category, 50 min length; using park for a festival scene	b2, b3	09	Discussion	Did Not Commence
6-Feb-14	2/19/14 or 3/20/14	Flight 33 Productions	Micro	History Channel TV show element, man-on-street interviews	b2	9	Approved	Did Not Commence
24-Jan-14	2/16/14	All In Productions	Low	Filming episode of TV show THE HELP DESK WITH DEEPAK CHOPRA for the Oprah Winfrey Network	Olive Court	40	Approved	Complete
24-Jan-14	N/A	Glen PR	N/A	Fashion Still Photo Shoot	N/A	8	Discussion	Did Not Commence
21-Jan-14	Btw 2/14 and 4/14	Warner Bros. TV	Low	ENTOURAGE motion picture	B2	2,000	Discussion	Did Not Commence
17-Jan-14	N/A	N/A	N/A	Best Buy Commercial (1/2 day shoot)	B3, B4	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
17-Jan-14	1/ 27-30/14	N/A	N/A	Nationwide Insurance commercial	N/A	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence



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February 9, 2015

Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

To:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Interim Chief Executive Officer

#### COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY STATUS REPORT

On September 9, 2014, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, the Board instructed this Office to report back every 60 days on the actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more productions to film in the County. On December 2, 2014, this Office provided your Board with a status report as requested, and this memorandum provides an update on the actions taken during the past two months per the Board's instructions.

#### City of Los Angeles City Council Recommendations to Increase Filming

As indicated in the December 2, 2014 status report to your Board, this Office met with the City of Los Angeles and FilmLA this past October to discuss filming challenges in Los Angeles. Per a suggestion from that meeting, this Office conducted a review of 19 recommendations approved by the City of Los Angeles in 2009 to increase film production. The purpose of this review was to determine applicability and feasibility of these recommendations for County implementation (Attachment). The following is a summary of findings:

 Seven recommendations were found to be either implemented or underway in the County. These include establishing parking coordination among jurisdictions, designating elected officials' staff as film contacts, identifying departmental film contacts, preparing ordinance on legally enforcing film shoots, contracting with FilmLA to serve as ambassador to the filming industry, establishing processes to solve filming location issues, and creating a website with a comprehensive list of County properties available for filming.

- Two recommendations were found to be applicable and feasible for County implementation. These include: 1) working with film industry location managers to create a "10 hardest to film in" location list and work on solutions to identified problems, and 2) developing a strategic plan to keep film production in Los Angeles. This Office will work with FilmLA, the film industry, and our regional partners to implement the aforementioned recommendations.
- Five recommendations were found not to be applicable or feasible for County implementation. These include creating power utility nodes, providing free parking under power lines, allowing FilmLA to manage vacant properties, reporting on city film policies, and compiling a comprehensive list of vacant city properties.
- Five recommendations were fiscal incentives that revolved around business tax credits/incentives, sales tax refunds, and a free parking program. These recommendations will require additional review and analysis with assistance from various County departments.

Unless otherwise directed, this Office will continue to further review the feasibility of implementing the recommendations with fiscal incentives and move ahead on implementing recommendations found to be applicable and feasible. A status on these recommendations will be provided in the next update.

#### Filming Fee Waiver

On December 2, 2014, the City of Los Angeles approved an extension of a five-year fee waiver for film productions shot on city properties aimed at combating runaway productions. The City usually charges a use fee to film on City-owned locations such as City Hall, parks, libraries, airports, and police facilities. The fee waivers are estimated to have cost the city approximately \$1.75 million in lost revenue over the past five years, averaging \$350,000 a year. The fee waiver does not apply to certain properties such as the Convention Center, Olvera Street, and Los Angeles Zoo.

The County also charges a use fee to film on County-owned locations such as the Hall of Administration, parks, libraries, beaches, and flood control channels. County properties excluded from this pricing are Arboreta and Botanical Gardens, Museum of Art, Natural History Museum, Page Museum, Ford Theatre, La Plaza, Music Center, Disney Hall, Grand Park, and Hollywood Bowl. Based on film use fees collected by the County during fiscal year 2013-14, a similar filming fee waiver (excluding properties identified above) would have cost the County approximately \$676,000 in lost revenue. Extrapolating this amount over five years would equal to \$3,380,000.

This Office will continue to monitor the City's fee waiver, look further into the cost and benefits of implementing a similar fee waiver in the County, and work with the Board's filming deputies on determining next steps.

#### **Coordination of Small Group Meeting of Film Industry Leaders**

This Office continues to work with FilmLA and the City of Los Angeles to schedule a series of small group meetings with film industry leaders beginning in February to discuss opportunities and partnerships for keeping and promoting film, television, commercial, and photography production in the County.

#### **County/Film Industry Coordination Meeting**

On January 14, 2015, this Office coordinated the semi-annual meeting between film industry representatives and affected County departments to discuss various filming-related issues. Two topics of interest included:

- "Drones" for commercial filming. Recently, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) provided exemptions to several private companies to use drones for filming and other commercial purposes under strict guidelines. Drone use for filming under County jurisdiction is allowed; however, it must be identified in their filming permit and reviewed by the Fire Department. No incidences or problems with drone use were identified thus far.
- Grand Park fees. Film Industry representatives are concerned that filming fees are still too high and a deterrent to keeping filming productions in Los Angeles. Grand Park representative provided a detailed report of filming and still photography activity and inquiries over the past year, and reported that filming activity has increased over the past year.

This Office will continue to coordinate semi-annual meetings to address any issues, and seek a proper balance between ensuring efficient and responsive services to the film industry while protecting the County's interest. The next coordination meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2015.

As requested by the Board, this Office will report back in 60 days with updates on actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more productions to film in the County.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Jerry Ramirez at (213) 974-4282, or jramirez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:SK JR:ib

#### Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel

County Film and Still Photography Status Report 020915

## Applicability/Feasibility of City of Los Angeles Filming Recommendations for County Implementation

	City Recommendations	Comments
W. 1910	Approved on 10/7/2009	
1.	DIRECT the Business Tax Advisory Committee (BTAC) to evaluate a	Fiscal Incentive. Additional review
	business tax credit for building owners that allow the exteriors to be filmed for free.	and analysis required.
		Figure 1 magnetics Additional reviews
2.	DIRECT the BTAC to evaluate a business tax credit for building	Fiscal Incentive. Additional review
3.	owners that allow interior filming for a "reasonable rate."	and analysis required.
J.	INSTRUCT the Office of Finance to report to the Jobs and Business Development Committee in 30 days on the feasibility and fiscal impact of a sales tax refund for purchases made for filming within the City when at least 75 percent of the shooting is done in the City of Los Angeles.	Fiscal Incentive. Additional review and analysis required.
4.	DIRECT the Department of General Services (GSD) and Los	Fiscal Incentive. Additional review
	Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) implement a free parking program, except for the cost of providing security, in all available City parking lots after business hours and during weekends and further DIRECT the GSD and LADOT to report in 30 days to the Jobs and Business Development Committee, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), in regard to said free parking program.	and analysis required.
5.	DIRECT the BTAC to evaluate a proposal to provide business tax incentives to private parking companies which provide parking to film shoots as a "reasonable rate."	Fiscal Incentive. Additional review and analysis required.
6.	REQUEST the Council President and Chair, Jobs and Business Development Committee, to send a letter to the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) requesting that the LADWP create three power utility nodes as part of a pilot project in Downtown Los Angeles that film production companies can use in lieu of generators.	Not applicable/feasible to County. Not recommended for further consideration.
7.	REQUEST the LADWP to provide free parking/base camp use for up to one week under LADWP power lines and further REQUEST the LADWP to report back to the Jobs and Business Development Committee with a map of locations.	Not applicable/feasible to County. Not recommended for further consideration.
8.	DIRECT the Film Industry Parking Task Force to report back to the Jobs and Business Development Committee in regard to partnering with other government entities to find additional parking opportunities.	Implemented/underway
9.	REQUEST the Council President and the Chair, Jobs and Business Development Committee, to send a letter to all Council members asking for them to designate one staff person per office that is the film contact.	Implemented/underway
	DIRECT the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and CLA to collect, distribute, and place on the City website a list of each of the City Department contacts regarding filming.	Implemented/underway
	DIRECT the CAO and CLA to work with film industry location managers to create a "10 hardest to film in" location list and further DIRECT the CAO and CLA to report back to the Jobs and Business Development Committee in 30 days with solutions to identified problems.	Recommended for further consideration.
12.	DIRECT the CAO and CLA to work with FilmLA to develop a process whereby FilmLA can manage vacant City property.	Not applicable/feasible to County. Not recommended for further consideration

13. DIRECT and REQUEST the CAO, CLA and City Attorney, as appropriate, to prepare and present an ordinance whereby the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) can legally enforce properly permitted film shoots to include making it illegal to disrupt a properly permitted film shoot.	Implemented/underway
14. DIRECT the CAO, with assistance of the CLA and City Attorney, to review the draft contract for FilmLA and to look for opportunities to increase FilmLA's role in marketing the film industry to City residents and to act as an ambassador between the City and film industry.	Implemented/underway
15. DIRECT the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to report back to the Jobs and Business Development Committee within 3 days on its film policy and with said report to include cost and availability of its locations; the film coordinator for each location; and the discrepancies found between locations.	Not applicable/feasible to County.  Not recommended for further consideration.
16. DIRECT the (RAP) to report back to the jobs and Business Development Committee within 30 days with recommendations on how to make it easier to film in RAP locations.	Implemented/underway
17. DIRECT FilmLA, which is currently creating a comprehensive location website, to include on that website a list of City properties, City incentives, contact information, parking and base camp locations and costs and further DIRECT that said website should highlight locations outside of the Downtown area in areas where there is less filming.	Implemented/underway
18. DIRECT the GSD to report back to the Jobs and Business Development Committee with a comprehensive list of vacant City properties that will update the list that was prepared in 1996.	Not applicable/feasible to County. Not recommended for further consideration.
19. DIRECT the City of Los Angeles work with the Los Angeles delegation of State Senators and Assembly members to create a strategic plan to keep film production in Los Angeles.	Recommended for further consideration.

# GRAND PARK FILM INQUIRY LOG FY 2013-2014

				FY 2013-2014				
DATE RECEIVED	PROD. DATE/TIME	ENTITY	BUDGET	TYPE OF PRODUCTION	LOCATION	CREW/TALEN T	STATUS	OUTCOME
14~Jan-14	NA	Rip Tide Films (NYC)	N/A	Motion Picture	N/A	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
14-Jan-14	1/21/14	N/a	A/N	Still photo shoot	N/A	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
18-Dec-13	Late 12/13, Early 1/14	N/A	Micro	Still Photo Shoot	181	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
11-Dec-13	1/11/14	lan Logan Photography	Low	Still photo shoot for SKETCHERS	B3, B4	15	Approved	Completed
9-Dec-13	12-14-13	Samantha Rockman	Micro	Still Photo Shoot	B1, B2	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
9-Dec-13	3 days in mid-January	Red Wagon Ent./Summit/Lionsgate	Mid-High	Motion Picture "Catbird," code name for DIVERGENT	B4	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
2-Dec-13	12-9-13; 4AM-9PM	ABC Television	Mid	Filming an episode of TV show INTELLIGENCE	B1, B2	65/45	Approved	Complete
26-Nov-13	12/5/13; TBD	Showtime TV	Mid	Showtime program; Café Scene	B4	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
26-Nov-13	12/17/13; 9AM-1PM	Fostered Productions	Low	Web video promoting self-help App, VIM-LIVING A FULL LIFE	B3	15	Approved	Complete
25-Nov-13	12/14/13; TBD	Kim Lance	Low	2 Hour Still Photo Shoot for 'Flonase'	B1, B2	15	Approved	Did Not Commence
11-Nov-13	11/18/13; 4AM-9PM	Warner Bros. TV	QIW	Filming episode of TV show THE MENTALIST	B1, B2	120	Approved	Complete
30-Oct-13	11/19/13; 10AM-4:00PM	Centro Net Productions	Low	Live segment for Mundo Fox / Canal 22	B2	20/2	Approved	Did Not Commence
9-Oct-13	10/21/13; 5:30AM-6:30PM	Black Lab Productions	Low	2 regional commercials for Norm's restaurants	B1, B2	25/15	Approved	Complete
2-Oct-13	10/5/13; 4 daytime hours	ITV Studios	Low	N/A	B1, B2	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
30-Sep-13	10/17/13; 6AM-12PM	Wayfarer Entertainment	Micro	Music Video for singer Chris Wallace	B1, B2	25/2	Approved	Complete
26-Sep-13	9/30 or 10/1/13	Bauer Fine	A/N	Still Photo Shoot for Samsung	N/A	N/A	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
24-Sep-13	10/19/13; 7AM-7PM	Anne Tower Productions	Low	Still Photo Shoot for 2014 Toyota Highlander	B4	25/10	Approved	Complete
20-Sep-13	10/3/13; 7AM-7PM	NCIS: Los Angeles	MID	Filming episode of TV show NCIS: LOS ANGELES	B1, B2	85/100	Approved	Complete
16-Sep-13	Week of 9/23; daytime	MSNBC	Low	Filming a staged protest	B3	100/125	Discussion	No Call Back
16-Sep-13	10/12/2013; 6AM-12PM	Melanie Spiegel, producer	Low	Still photo shoot for AT&T	B3, B4	20/5	Approved	Complete
10-Sep-13	9/13/2013: Daytime 3hrs	N/A	MICRO	Teaser Trailer	B1-B4	10/10	Discussion	No Call Back
21-Aug-13	8/29/2013: 10AM-4PM	Student	MICRO	3D Filming Project	B1	2/8	Negotiation	Did Not Commence
20-Aug-13	8/24/2013: 9AM-1PM	New York Film Academy	MICRO	Student Short Film; Dramatic Scene	B3	3/3	Approved	Complete
20-Aug-13	8/27/2013: 8AM-4PM	Definition Branding and Marketing	LOW	Product commercial for LA Times website	B3	3/0	Approved	Complete
15-Aug-13	8/26/2013: 7AM-8PM	Duroo Productions	LOW	Shooting a small version of an outdoor festival w/ booths, stage, etc.	B4	20/60	Discussion	No Call Back
11-Aug-13	8/26/2013: Time TBD	Marlboro	N/A	Still Photo shoot w/model advertising Marlboro	B1	25/2-3	Not Approved	Did Not Commence
9-Aug-13	8/13/2013: 8AM-8AM	CONNECT THE DOTS INC	Low	Still photo shoot w/model for Sony product	B2, B3, B4	25/2	Discussion	Did Not Commence



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> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

March 12, 2015

To:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Interim Chief

## COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY PERMITTING SERVICES (ITEM NO. 16, AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014)

On September 9, 2014, your Board approved a recommendation from this Office to amend Agreement No. 77080 with FilmLA to exercise an optional five-year extension to continue film and still photography permitting services, and add a provision to designate a County Project Manager for Film Permit Issuance (County Film Permit Issuer). This Office indicated that a status report would be provided to your Board by March 2015, regarding the resources necessary to release filming permits by the Film Project Manager. This memorandum serves as the aforementioned status report.

The Department of Public Works (Public Works) has been designated the role of County Film Permit Issuer. Prior to release of a permit by FilmLA to any film permit applicant, FilmLA demonstrates to the satisfaction of the County Film Permit Issuer that all required approvals for each film location under County jurisdiction have been obtained. Upon receipt of written approval from the County Film Permit Issuer, FilmLA releases the permit.

After review of film permit activity over the past few months, Public Works has reported that its role as County Film Permit Issuer is being performed using existing resources and no additional resources will be necessary at this time to continue to perform in that role.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Jerry Ramirez at (213) 974-4282, or jramirez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:SK JR:ib

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

County Counsel Public Works

County Film and Still Photography Permitting Svcs (Item 16, Agenda 090914)

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

## GRAND PARK FILM INQUIRY LOG FY 2013-2014

				FY 2013-2014				
DATE	PROD. DATE/TIME	ENTITY	BUDGET	TYPE OF PRODUCTION	LOCATION	CREW/TALEN T	STATUS	OUTCOME
8-Aug-13	8/13/2013: 2:30AM-5AM	Golden Era Productions	TOW	Non-Profit Commercial at Splash Pad, Fountain	B1	20/2	Approved	Did Not Commence
6-Aug-13	2 days/Week of 8/12/13	20th Century Fox	MID	Scene for episode of TV show The Crazy Ones	B3	50/100	Discussion	Did Not Commence
1-Aug-13	8/20/2013: 7AM-7PM	MRB Productions	TOW	Toy Commercial for web	B1	35/x	Discussion	Did Not Commence
24-Jul-13	8/9/2013	Soul Pancake	MICRO	Video Project	B4	N/A	Discussion	Did Not Commence
16-Jul-13	8/8 or 8/9, 2013	Dodge	TOW	Dodge commercial	N/A	N/A	Discussion	No Call Back
11-Jul-13	9/25/2013: 3PM-2AM	NZK Productions	MID	Splash Pad Dinner for TV show THE BACHELOR	B1	25/2	Negotiation	Did Not Commence
9-Jul-13	N/A	Japanese prod. co.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Discussion	No Call Back
1-Jul-13	7/9/2013: 7AM-7PM	Laundry!	LOW	Industrial commercial for Sony headphones	B1, B2	25/3	Approved	Complete
26-Jun-13	7/20 or 7/21, 2013; Night	hitRECord onTV	TOW	Shoot a concert for the Joseph Gordon-Levitt television show based on his web series	B2	N/A	Discussion	No Call Back



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> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

April 10, 2015

To:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Interim Chief Kecutive Officer

#### COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY STATUS REPORT

On September 9, 2014, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, the Board instructed this Office to report back every 60 days on the actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more productions to film in the County. This Office reported back to your Board on December 2, 2014, and February 9, 2015, and this memorandum provides an update on recent actions per the Board's instructions.

#### Status on Recent Efforts

On the February 9, 2015, status report to your Board, this Office indicated it would create a "10 hardest to film in" location list, work with regional partners to encourage and retain film production in Los Angeles County, and further review the feasibility of implementing fiscal incentives. Below is a status on these efforts.

"10 Hardest to film in" location list – This Office met with several film industry location managers with the goal of identifying County facilities that were difficult to film at and discuss solutions. It became apparent during these discussions that creating a list of "hardest to film in" locations addressed only one of several main issues concerning the filming community when interacting with the County. Issues that were identified include:

- Availability and accessibility of several County facilities/locations;
- Charging of various County fees in addition to service (reimbursement for County employee time) and use (facility/location) fees;

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

Each Supervisor April 10, 2015 Page 2

- County staffing shortages at departments that process/coordinate permits at facilities/locations with high use; and
- "Unfriendly" attitude towards filming.

Based on this information, this Office will work with relevant departments to investigate the validity of the aforementioned issues and work on solutions. Developments on these efforts will be provided to your Board in the next update.

Regional Strategic Plan on Filming – On January 14, 2014, your Board adopted a "County Filming Policy" based on California Film Commission's (CFC) Model Film Ordinance, which was meant to encourage uniform film practices and permit processes throughout the region. This action was predicated on the efforts of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the California Film Commission (CFC), FilmLA, and the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), who in 2012 joined together to work on protecting the region's film, television, and commercial production industry. Based on the regional leadership roles both SCAG and LAEDC played in this effort, it seems appropriate for these organizations to continue to spearhead and promote the development of a regional approach to retain and encourage filming in the Los Angeles area. This Office will work within these existing regional structures to address regional filming issues.

<u>Fiscal Incentives</u> – This Office has been reviewing the feasibility of implementing various fiscal incentives revolving around business tax credits/incentives, sales tax refunds, and a free parking program to encourage and increase filming production. Due to complex issues related to the utilization of taxes to support a specific industry, additional time will be required to fully analyze and consider the economic and legal ramifications of implementing fiscal incentives within the County's jurisdiction. This Office will continue to review fiscal incentives and report back as necessary.

#### **Coordination Efforts**

Coordination meetings between the County, FilmLA, and film industry leaders continue to be beneficial in discussing and addressing film-related issues. For example, at the last coordination meeting held in January, film industry leaders expressed interest in filming at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall. As a result, the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs will soon allow filming at the Patriotic Hall facility during certain designated days and hours not used by the public.

The next semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting is scheduled for July 15, 2015, which will continue to serve as a venue to discuss the various issues mentioned in this update, as well as discuss any new issues Board offices, County departments, and/or film industry leaders may want to bring forth. In addition to the County's coordination meetings, the City of Los Angeles has invited the County to participate in their film coordination meeting later this month to share information and possibly collaborate on filming-related efforts.

Each Supervisor April 10, 2015 Page 3

Unless otherwise directed, this Office will report back to the Board every six months, rather than every 60 days, to coincide with the outcome of the semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meetings, and to allow for a more comprehensive update on actions taken. As such, the reports back to your Board will be provided in January and July of each year, with the next report back in July of this year.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Jerry Ramirez at (213) 974-4282, or jramirez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:SK JR:ib

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel

County Film and Still Photography Status Report (Apr 10, 2015 (Brd Memo)



Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://ceo.lacounty.gov

November 2, 2015

Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

To:

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Mayor

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

Chief Executive Off

#### COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY STATUS REPORT

On September 9, 2014, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, the Board instructed this Office to periodically report back on the actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more productions to film in the County. In our last status report to the Board on April 10, 2015, we indicated that updates would be provided twice per year to coincide with the outcome of the semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meetings, and to allow for more comprehensive updates on actions taken. This memorandum serves as the first semi-annual update, and addresses:

- Status on responses to issues raised by film industry representatives regarding coordination between the County and the film industry, a regional strategic plan on filming, and fiscal incentives for filming in the County; and
- Status of coordination efforts between the County and the film industry.

#### **Status on Recent Efforts**

Issues Raised by Film Industry Representatives: In the April 10, 2015, status report to the Board, this Office indicated it would report back on efforts in response to issues identified by filming representatives concerning challenges when interacting with the County.

Availability and accessibility of certain County facilities/locations: Over the past few years, there have been several inquiries from the filming community on the availability of the Hall of Justice and Patriotic Hall. At the July 15, 2015, semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting, County representatives announced that the Patriotic Hall started allowing filming as of July 1, 2015, and that the Hall of Justice would be available for filming by the end of the year.

- Charging of various County fees in addition to service (reimbursement for County employee time) and use (facility/location) fees: This issue involves the road fees charged by the Department of Public Works for filming in remote areas. According to film industry representatives, the road fee charge of \$800 per day seems excessive when filming in rural parts of the County where the road is not being used or blocked, and there is minimal traffic. According to County representatives, the fee is necessary when filming and/or equipment is on or near a road to ensure proper safety precautions are being taken and production companies are not encroaching on the roadway.
- County staffing shortages at departments that process/coordinate permits at facilities/locations with high use: This Office will continue to work with departments through the budget process to address staffing issues to meet the needs of the public and filming industry.
- "Unfriendly" attitude towards filming: No specific instances, which would indicate
  an "unfriendly" County attitude towards filming, have been identified, but we will
  continue to promote optimum coordination and cooperation both through the
  semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meetings, as well as other
  ongoing and/or emergent interactions.

Regional Strategic Plan on Filming: In the last update, this Office indicated it would seek to work with existing regional organizations, such as Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) and Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC), to develop a regional approach to retain and encourage filming in the Los Angeles area. At this time, there is no established effort underway to develop a regional strategic plan, but this Office will invite regional partners to the next semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting to initiate discussion on a regional approach to retain and encourage filming.

<u>Fiscal Incentives</u>: The State of California recently expanded annual filming tax credits from \$100 million to \$300 million to encourage local productions, such as big-budget feature films, one-hour TV series, TV pilots, and independent films. A key change in this expanded program is the replacement of a lottery system with a ranking system based on jobs and other criteria for selection of projects to receive tax credits. Given the recent implementation of this expanded tax incentive program, it is not recommended that the County consider implementing additional fiscal incentives for filming production at this time, particularly given major pressing priorities including jail diversion, homelessness, child safety, and health integration.

#### **Coordination Efforts**

Coordination meetings between the County, FilmLA, and film industry leaders continue to be beneficial in discussing and addressing film-related issues. Among the issues

Each Supervisor November 2, 2015 Page 3

addressed at the last County/Film Industry Coordination Meeting of July 15, 2015 were updates on issues addressed above, such as availability of filming at Patriotic Hall and the Hall of Justice, road film fees, and State tax incentives, as well as proposed increases in filming fees scheduled for November 2016.

The next semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2016. These forums will continue to provide a cooperative and informational venue to discuss issues mentioned in this update, as well as discuss any new issues which Board offices, County departments, FilmLA, and/or film industry leaders may identify.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Jerry Ramirez at (213) 974-0514, or jramirez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:SK JR:ib

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors County Counsel



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> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

Fifth District

June 30, 2016

To:

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Chair

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

Sachi A. Hamai

#### COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY STATUS REPORT (ITEM NO. 16, AGENDA OF **SEPTEMBER 9, 2014)**

On September 9, 2014, a Board motion instructed this Office to periodically report back on the actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more productions to film in the County. On April 10, 2015, our Office indicated that status reports would be provided twice a year to allow for more comprehensive updates. The last status report to the Board was dated November 2, 2015. This status report addresses the following issues discussed at the January 20, 2016 County/Film Industry Coordination meeting:

- Fire Department Filming Fees
- FilmLA Update on Regional Filming
- Industry Feedback on Filming at County Facilities

The report also discusses the May 17, 2016 Board Motion regarding the California Film Commission's Model Film Ordinance and Best Practices.

#### Fire Department (Fire) Filming Fee Update

Fire is currently working on their triennial Fire Code review and simultaneously their Fire-related The Chief Executive Office (CEO) reported to the Board on filming fee adjustments. December 12, 2012 that departments seeking adjustments to filming fees (County Use Fees, County Review Fees, and County Service Fees, as defined below) must present recommendations for any adjustments to the Board in a coordinated fashion on the same agenda as the Fire-related filming fee adjustments, which are scheduled for November 2016.

Each Supervisor June 30, 2016 Page 2

County departments primarily affected include the Executive Office of the Board, Beaches and Harbors, Military and Veterans Affairs, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Internal Services Department, and the Sheriff.

The Filming Fees are defined as follows:

<u>County Use Fees</u>: A daily fee, or rent, is charged to use a County facility. The current fee is \$400 per day for most County facilities.

<u>County Review Fees</u>: These fees pay for staff time in providing services necessary to review application materials, generate permit conditions, and then issue the film permit.

<u>County Service Fees</u>: Service fees recover the cost to departments for providing support personnel during location filming (e.g., security, monitors, lifeguards, and inspectors).

At the January 20, 2016 County/Film Industry Coordination meeting, Fire addressed the following:

- > Filming Fees: The revised Fire Code and potential filming fee increases will be presented at the July 20, 2016 County/Film Industry Coordination meeting.
- County Service Fees: Fire negotiated an increase rate for Fire Safety Advisor (FSA) and Fire Safety Officers (FSO) and notified FilmLA as follows:
  - The FSA rate increased by approximately 3 percent on January 1, 2016, and will increase another 3 percent on July 1, 2016. The total cumulative rate increase for the negotiated agreement through December 31, 2017 will be 10 percent.
  - The FSO rate increase will be approximately 10 percent effective July 1, 2016. The FSO rate increases only once per year. The Fire Department has also increased staffing to help with filming issues.

#### **Industry Feedback on Filming at County Facilities**

A film industry representative indicated that they had a positive experience filming a commercial at Patriotic Hall. The film industry has also recently utilized the Hall of Records and the Hall of Justice.

#### FilmLA Update on Regional Filming

FilmLA has been working with the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC) and the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) to meet and encourage cities to adopt the California Film Commission's Model Film Ordinance and Best Practices.

Each Supervisor June 30, 2016 Page 3

In addition, on May 17, 2016 the Board adopted a motion introduced by Supervisors Knabe and Kuehl instructing the CEO to send a letter to all 88 cities in Los Angeles County asking that they consider adopting the California Film Commission's Model Film Ordinance and Best Practices as their city's film policy to the extent possible. The intent of the motion was to help ensure uniform film practices and permit processes throughout the County. On June 1, 2016, our Office sent out letters to the 88 city managers.

Coordination meetings between the County, FilmLA, and film industry leaders continue to be beneficial in discussing and addressing film-related issues. The next semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2016.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Susana Graether at (213) 893-2086, or <a href="mailto:sgraether@ceo.lacounty.gov">sgraether@ceo.lacounty.gov</a>.

SAH:JJ:DPH:DSB DSP:SVG:acn

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff Department
Beaches and Harbors
Fire Department
Internal Services Department
Military and Veterans Affairs
Parks and Recreation
Public Health
Public Works
FilmLA



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> Board of Supervisors HILDA L. SOLIS First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS Second District

SHEILA KUEHL Third District

JANICE HAHN Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER Fifth District

January 31, 2017

To:

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman

Supervisor Hilda L. Solis Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Supervisor Janice Hahn Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From:

Sachi A. Hamai V

Chief Executive Officer

### COUNTY FILM AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHY STATUS REPORT (ITEM NO. 16, AGENDA OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2014)

On September 9, 2014, a Board motion instructed this office to periodically report back on the actions taken to standardize the County's film and still photography permit service fees and attract more film production in the County. On April 10, 2015, our office indicated that status reports would be provided twice a year to allow for more comprehensive updates. The last status report to the Board was dated June 30, 2016. This status report addresses the following issues discussed at the January 18, 2017 County/Filming Industry Coordination meeting:

- Fire Department proposed Ordinance amending Title 32
- FilmLA Update on the Animal Exhibition License Process
- FilmLA Update on unpermitted filming at Oasis Park and Stickleback Movie Ranch
- FilmLA report on feature production rebounding in Los Angeles County
- Industry Feedback on Filming at County Facilities

#### Fire Department (Fire) Proposed Ordinance to Amend Title 32

On December 20, 2016, Fire introduced an Ordinance to amend the Los Angeles County Fire Code (Title 32). The Title 32 Fire Code amendment would, among other things, increase certain Fire Film Permit fees. The public hearing to adopt the ordinance was held on January 24, 2017.

Each Supervisor January 31, 2017 Page 2

A motion by Supervisor Kuehl was adopted to maintain the existing fees for general Film Permits, Pyrotechnics Permits and Still Photography; and reduce the Film Fuel Truck permit fee from \$223 to \$208.

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas also introduced a related motion on January 24, 2017. His motion directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), in consultation with Fire and the Auditor-Controller, to report back with an analysis of all current and proposed Los Angeles County film fees, a comparison of those film fees to other popular locations throughout the nation, the impact of fees on film production in Los Angeles County, and the effect of those fees on the entertainment industry's decisions to locate film productions in Los Angeles County or elsewhere.

Action Item: The CEO, Fire and the Auditor-Controller will report back to the Board of Supervisors in 60 days with the analysis of film fees.

#### FilmLA Update on the Animal Exhibition License Process

FilmLA reported that they recently became aware that the Department of Animal Care and Control (Animal Care) requires Animal Exhibition Licenses for all animals involved in filming activities, defined as public entertainment. FilmLA met with Animal Care in October 2016 to better understand the process of when an Animal Exhibition License is required. Animal Care informed FilmLA that according to County Code they issue Animal Exhibition Licenses, at a cost of \$250, for filming that involves domestic or wild animals within their jurisdiction. FilmLA reported that they now refer production companies to Animal Care to apply for an Animal Exhibition License when a domestic or wild animal is used for filming. We understand that FilmLA has not had any complaints regarding the process; however, at the County/Filming Industry Coordination meeting, Industry associations and Board offices expressed concerns.

Action Item: The CEO will review the process with Animal Care and report back at the next County/Filming Industry Coordination meeting.

#### FilmLA Update on unpermitted filming at Oasis Park and Stickleback Movie Ranch

Unpermitted filming has been taking place on private property at Oasis Park and Stickleback Movie Ranch in Santa Clarita. However, FilmLA reported that there are gaps in the County Code which has allowed homeowners to by-pass the permit process and precludes enforcement by the Department of Regional Planning or the Sheriff. The Fire Department reported that they were able to cite the homeowners for violations of the Fire Code. Fire, County Counsel and the District Attorney coordinated efforts to issue violations and there were numerous counts brought against the homeowners in court on January 30, 2017 for allowing filming without a permit.

Each Supervisor January 31, 2017 Page 3

The Board offices expressed concern that the County Code precludes enforcement by the Sheriff and/or Regional Planning.

Action Item: The CEO will follow-up with County Counsel, to propose amendments to the County Code, to allow enforcement for non-compliance with the film permit process by homeowners and production companies.

#### FilmLA Report on Feature Production Rebounding in Los Angeles County

FilmLA reported that feature film production has rebounded in Los Angeles County. On-location filming in Greater Los Angeles increased 5.1 percent between October and December 2016, according to FilmLA. Annual filming for 2016 increased by 6.2 percent over 2015, and was up 5.8 percent in the Unincorporated Areas of the County. The increase in production is attributed to feature film projects qualifying for California's Film and Television Tax Credit Program which represented 15 percent of recent productions in the category. Additionally, per FilmLA, 11 percent of shoot days for TV comedy, and 39 percent of shoot days for TV drama, are generated by projects enrolled in the State incentive program. The Tax Credit Program is set to expire on June 30, 2020, however the funding allocated to the program may be fully expended before the end of the sunset date. The Industry is working with legislators to request an extension of the program.

#### Industry Feedback on Filming at County Facilities

Film Industry representatives had several coordination questions relative to the Hall of Justice and the Hall of Records. Lieutenant John Lindsay, Sheriff Department, indicated that he is the contact for filming at the Hall of Justice. Aida Barkhordarian, District Attorney (DA), is the contact for filming at the Hall of Records. The Industry requested that the Internal Services Department be present at each site walk-through with the DA at the Hall of Records to address issues related to filming.

The Board offices requested that the CEO review the agreement with various veterans services organizations regarding the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall. The Industry would like to film more frequently at the renovated facility.

Action Item: CEO will report back on filming at Patriotic Hall.

Coordination meetings between the County, FilmLA, and the Film Industry leaders continue to be beneficial in discussing and addressing film-related issues. The next semi-annual County/Film Industry Coordination meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2017.

Each Supervisor January 31, 2017 Page 4

Please let me know if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Susana Graether at (213) 893-2086 or <a href="mailto:sgraether@ceo.lacounty.gov">sgraether@ceo.lacounty.gov</a>.

SAH:JJ:DPH:DSP SVG:ns

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Sheriff Department
Animal Care and Control
Beaches and Harbors
Department of Public Health
Department of Public Works
Fire Department
Internal Services Department
Military and Veterans Affairs
Parks and Recreation
FilmLA